

Appl. No. : 09/997,445
Filed : November 29, 2001

REMARKS

Claim 13 has been amended and Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 12, and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice. As a result, Claim 13 remains pending in the present application. Support for the amendments can be found in the Specification and claims as filed. Accordingly, the amendments do not constitute addition of new matter. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and following comments is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for written description and enablement issues. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 12, and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph is now moot.

Allowed Claim

The Examiner indicated that Claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 13 has been amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Claim 13 is now in allowable form.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

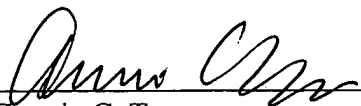
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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: January 5, 2006

By: 
Connie C. Tong
Registration No. 52,292
Agent of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

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